



## CHAPTER 6: PUBLIC FACILITIES



*The county's public facilities are important to achieving the community's vision*

### **Introduction**

Public facilities play an important role in the future development of the county and are therefore an important element in the comprehensive plan. Public facilities include amenities and services such as fire protection, police services, water and wastewater services, public schools, parks and recreation in addition to government owned properties such as the Courthouse and County Annex Building.

### **Goals and Objectives**

#### ***Goal 1: Respond to the life-long educational needs of Harrison County.***

##### ***Objectives***

1. Partner with post-secondary institutions to provide continued, life-long learning for adults.
2. Partner with high schools, technical colleges, or other agencies to provide specialized vocational and technical training for high school students and adults.
3. Coordinate future needs with school districts to ensure adequate school facilities.

#### ***Goal 2: Support the expansion and enhancement of services, programs, and facilities within Harrison County.***

##### ***Objectives***

1. Support and coordinate with the most recently adopted Harrison County Park and Recreation Plan and Harrison County Tourism Plan; these plans will be considered an addendum of the Comprehensive Plan.



2. Relocate county facilities and services out of floodplain areas.
3. Provide increased access to the Ohio River.

### **Current Public Facilities**

The County currently provides or has partnerships to provide multiple public services and amenities (Figure 6-1). Each current public facility is briefly described below.

#### **Fire Protection**

Harrison County's fire protection is provided by volunteer fire departments. There are currently eight fire houses throughout the county. The existing fire houses include:

- Boone Township Volunteer Fire Department
- Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Department
- Milltown Volunteer Fire Department
- New Middletown Volunteer Fire Department
- Harrison TWP Volunteer Fire Department
- Heth Township Volunteer Fire Department (2 firehouses)
- Lanesville Volunteer Fire Department
- Palmyra Volunteer Fire Department (2 firehouses)
- Ramsey Volunteer Fire Fighters Inc. (3 firehouses)



*Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department  
Station No. 2*

Harrison County also has three EMS stations for emergency response in addition to the hospital located in Corydon. EMS personnel are employees of the hospital and partially subsidized by the county.

#### **Police Protection**

Harrison County's law enforcement consists of the Harrison County Sheriff's office and the Corydon Police Department; both are located in Corydon. The county is also within the Sellersburg District of the Indiana State Police (ISP); ISP provides road patrols and assistance as needed. In addition, Lanesville, Milltown and Palmyra have Town Marshals.

#### **Water and Wastewater Services**

The majority of the county is serviced by water through the following:

- Corydon Water Department



- Elizabeth Water Company
- Lanesville Utilities
- Palmyra Utilities
- Ramsey Water Company
- South Harrison Water Corp
- Edwardsville Water Corporation

A portion of the county is serviced by sewer service through:

- Harrison County Regional Sewer District
- Corydon Sewer Department
- Milltown Sewer Department
- Palmyra Sewer Department
- Lanesville Sewer Department
- Laconia Sewer Department

## Public Schools

Harrison County has three public school districts: Lanesville Community School Corporation, North Harrison Community Schools and South Harrison Community School Corporation. The schools include:

### ***Lanesville Community School Corporation***

- Lanesville Elementary School
- Lanesville Junior/ Senior High School

### ***North Harrison Community Schools***

- North Harrison Elementary
- Morgan Elementary
- North Harrison Middle School
- North Harrison High School



*Heth-Washington Elementary School*

### ***South Harrison Community School Corporation***

- Corydon Central High School
- Corydon Central Junior High School
- Corydon Elementary School
- Corydon Intermediate School
- Heth-Washington Elementary School
- New Middletown Elementary School
- South Central Elementary School



*South Central Junior/ Senior High School*



- South Central Junior/ Senior High School
- South Harrison Alternative School

### Private Schools

Several private schools operate in the county which includes grades PK-12.

### Parks and Recreation

Harrison County maintains seven public parks; they include:

- Battle of Corydon Park (5 acres): Site of the only civil war battle fought on Indiana soil.
- Hayswood Nature Preserve (311 acres): A portion is developed as a park but over 200 acres remain in its natural state.
- South Harrison Park: Provides a great place for peace and quiet and also includes an outdoor Olympic swimming pool.
- Buffalo Trace Park (147 acres): Offers camping facilities and a 30-acre man-made lake.
- Harrison Poolside Park (7 acres): Has provided 30 years of summer swimming and recreation and is home to the Harrison County swim team.
- W.Q. Gresham Park (3 acres): Was dedicated in 1967 and was the first public park in Harrison County.
- Noe's Rest Park (3 acres): Donated to Harrison County by the governor of Louisiana and boyhood Harrison County resident, James A. Noe.



*Buffalo Trace county park*



FIGURE 6-1  
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### Other Government Owned Facilities

Harrison County has many property assets including the Courthouse, Highway Garage, Animal Shelter, and the County Annex Building. These properties and buildings are critical in executing daily activities of county government and serving the needs of Harrison County residents. The County Annex Building is currently located partially within a floodway and frequently floods. These offices should be relocated to prevent disruption of work and damage to county property.



*Harrison County Government Annex Building during high water*

In addition to these facilities, the county currently owns and operates a county highway garage and the old hospital building. Plans are needed to expand or relocate the current highway garage and explore a future use for the former hospital facility.



*Harrison County highway garage*

Investment in community facilities (new construction or renovation) should take into account reducing lifecycle costs and improving energy efficiency. While initial capital investments might be slightly higher up front, the benefits to lifecycle costs usually outweigh the initial investment and provide for long term savings and better resource management.

With rising energy costs, the County should also explore the potential for replacement or supplement of energy use for county facilities with renewable, on-site power generation, such as wind, water or solar. For example, the County could include utilizing water turbines on sewer outfall lines to supplement the sewage treatment plant's power needs. Another example could include installing solar panels on street lights to supplement power needs in parks and other areas where outdoor lighting is required as a



*Example of a green roof*





service by the County.

Striving for more energy efficient facilities could also serve as an example for Harrison County residents to increase their quality of life by relying less on non-renewable sources of energy.



*Example of a solar powered street light*

### **Future Parks and Recreation Needs**

During the planning process, several recreational needs were identified by Harrison County residents. Most notable of these was the desire for improved access to the Ohio River via additional boat ramps and a river marina. In order to facilitate the development of a marina, a public/private partnership between the county and a concessionaire may be appropriate. Potential sites identified for a future marina and/or improved boat access were focused primarily near the Town of Mauckport.

Also identified as additional recreational needs included the construction of multi-use trails and the acquisition of additional park land located in southern Harrison County. For a complete list of planned recreation improvements, consult the most recent version of the Harrison County Parks Plan which should serve as the official policy of Harrison County with regard to parks and recreation.